

Message Text

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ORIGIN NAS-01

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-----102132 241148Z /23
R 240701Z NOV 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, YO (HALPERN, JOEL)

SUBJECT: NAS EXCHANGE VISIT: HALPERN

REFS: A) STATE 249241, B) STATE 251422, C) STATE 263874

1. ON NOVEMBER 10 HALPERN'S PROPOSED PRINCIPAL HOST FOR LONG-TERM EXCHANGE VISIT BEGINNING JANUARY 1978, SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES VICE PRESIDENT RADOMIR LUKIC, WROTE HALPERN A CURIOUS BUT CORDIAL LETTER STATING THAT SERBIAN ACADEMY "COULD NOT ACCEPT YOUR 8-MONTH STAY BECAUSE IT WOULD TAKE UP OUR WHOLE QUOTA FOR THE EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS WITH THE US. I HOPE THAT IN THE FUTURE IT WILL BE SO ARRANGED THAT YOU CAN SPEND WITH US AS MUCH TIME AS YOU NEED FOR YOUR WORK."

2. THE PREVIOUS DAY, NOVEMBER 9, NAS FOREIGN SECRETARY
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HAMMOND HAD SENT NIGHT CABLE TO COUNCIL OF ACADEMIES PRESIDENT CAMO REQUESTING RECONSIDERATION OF HALPERN VISIT. NAS SENT EMBASSY COPY OF THAT MESSAGE DIRECTLY.

3. LUKIC'S LETTER TO HALPERN PUZZLES NAS OFFICIALS SINCE THEY ARE AWARE OF NO INTERNAL RULES ON EITHER SIDE

GOVERNING ALLOCATION OF EXCHANGE QUOTA TO SCIENTISTS FROM THE SENDING COUNTRY. MOU BETWEEN NAS AND COUNCIL LIMITS TOTAL QUOTA USAGE BY EITHER SIDE TO 30 MONTHS ANNUALLY IN EACH DIRECTION. WITHIN THESE LIMITS, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN NAS'S UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH SIDE IS FREE TO ASSIGN THAT QUOTA TO PARTICIPANTS OF ITS OWN CHOOSING FOR TRAVEL TO THE RECEIVING COUNTRY. (FYI: NAS HAS BEEN AWARE THAT YUGOSLAV SIDE ALLOCATES ITS PART OF QUOTA, FOR TRAVEL BY YUGOSLAVS TO USA, EQUALLY AMONG REPUBLICAN ACADEMIES.)

4. LUKIC'S STATEMENT TO HALPERN IS THE FIRST INDICATION NAS HAS RECEIVED SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM (1966) THAT YUGOSLAV SIDE IMPOSES INTERNAL QUOTA ALLOCATION RULES ON TRAVEL BY NAS EXCHANGEES TO YUGOSLAVIA. IF THIS SPECULATIVE DEDUCTION FROM LUKIC'S LETTER IS CORRECT, NAS REGARDS THE PRACTICE AS UNFOUNDED AND CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS PRACTICE.

5. NAS WOULD APPRECIATE SCIATT INQUIRING AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY OF SERBIAN ACADEMY OFFICIALS ABOUT HOW LUKIC'S JUSTIFICATION FOR HALPERN REJECTION CAN BE RECONCILED WITH PROVISIONS OF NAS-COUNCIL MOU. NAS WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE INFORMATION ABOUT STEPS SCIATT HAS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO EARLIER NAS REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE HALPERN CASE SO IT MAY JUDGE WHERE THE MATTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STANDS AT PRESENT. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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